Summary

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Summary

It has been difficult to create an issue devoted to the subject of sports that would interest the readers precisely when everybody's attention is focused on Munich. However, it has been a beautiful opportunity for the architects to design all the Olympic buildings with practically no financial restrictions.

In the day-to-day routine in architects' offices things are quite different. To be sure, the construction of sports facilities is assuming increasing importance. The main reason for this is the national rivalry involved in this field, but there is emerging a trend toward individualized sports. No doubt we have here a new consumption wave following on that in the field of foods, clothing and motor-cars.

Most of the buildings presented here are intended for large-scale athletic events. This issue seeks to give some idea of the problems which in this field will increasingly confront architects in the future.

On this Issue

Athletic training building in Magglingen

Max Schlup

(Pages 437–440)

The Swiss Federal School of Gymnastics and Athletics in Magglingen above the Lake of Biel was established in 1944, and its training centre is now one of the major athletic and physical education centres in Switzerland where trainers and coaches are trained and where athletes meet to get in condition for important international competitions.

The project got under way in October 1968 and was completed in August 1970. The scope of the building program, which had to be laid out on a sloping ground, was determined by the number of difficulties. The result was a complex on 7 levels closely integrated in the slope, which at no point gives rise to exaggerated height. Despite the construction difficulties, it has been possible to preserve many of the trees standing on the site.

The upper tract is clearly recessed from the entrance terrace which is accessible to the public; this upper tract accommodates the following premises: On the ground floor, the reception foyer, a polyvalent auditorium with a seating capacity of 200; on the 1st and 2nd floors, a library with periodical and publication service. On the 1st and 2nd levels of the lower tract are located the classrooms, assembly halls, exhibition rooms, auditoriums and conference rooms and administration offices. The 3rd and the 4th basement levels accommodate the training pool (10 X 25 m), the dressing-rooms, the training rooms, saunas, etc. Finally, the 5th basement level contains the technical installations.

The complex was planned on a module of 1.20 X 1.20 m. This entailed a structural grid of 7.20 X 14.40 m. Retaining walls, foundations, sanitary blocks and floors are of reinforced concrete. The remaining parts are of steel.

Steel, concrete and glass, which are the sole materials employed, invest the complex with its unity despite the irregularity of the building volumes.

Sports and recreation centre in Wallisellen

Joseph Schütz

(Pages 447–449)

The main consideration here was not to disturb the attraction of the neighbourhood. This is why the buildings, restaurant, cloakrooms, flats, skating rink were located at the lowest point between the hill and a wooded area. This skilful emplacement of the buildings and green tracts made it possible to measure up to the panoramic view. The hill of Harnischbüel is thus organized as a games and recreation area supplemented by lounging areas and paths for mothers and their children.

The restaurant, with a seating capacity of 176, is slightly elevated, and from here is a fine view on to the paling fields and the rink. With its pyramidal roof it constitutes the main accent of the complex. The square rink (20 X 30 m) with its hockey rink (20 X 60 m) are situated side by side. The grandstands can accommodate 3000 spectators. Here, too, the comfortable seating is generously distributed; an area is reserved for children, which can also be occupied by school classes and people who wish to have a bird's-eye view on the main dining-room.

The sports ground is a quartet of fields, one for each level. There are various utility rooms as well as the administrative office. All of this is elevated and permits a good view of the hockey rink.

Indoor swimming-pool of the municipality of Rheine

Buss von Busse

(Pages 450–452)

The entrance lobby is entered via a vestibule; the visitor purchases his ticket in a hall which is designed in the style of the restaurant, and is equipped with the facilities (over...)